
HOUSE BILL 1352

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Santos, Hasegawa, Haler, Appleton, Simpson,
Hankins and Wood

Read first time 01/17/2007. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to meeting state academic requirements for the
2 certificate of academic achievement; and amending RCW 28A.655.061.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.655.061 and 2006 c 115 s 4 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The high school assessment system shall include but need not be
7 limited to the Washington assessment of student learning, opportunities
8 for a student to retake the content areas of the assessment in which
9 the student was not successful, and if approved by the legislature
10 pursuant to subsection (10) of this section, one or more objective
11 alternative assessments for a student to demonstrate achievement of
12 state academic (~~standards~~) requirements. The objective alternative
13 assessments for each content area shall be comparable in rigor to the
14 skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the
15 Washington assessment of student learning for each content area.

16 (2) Subject to the conditions in this section, a certificate of
17 academic achievement shall be obtained by most students at about the
18 age of sixteen, and is evidence that the students have successfully met
19 the state (~~standard~~) academic requirements in the content areas

1 included in the certificate. With the exception of students satisfying
2 the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, acquisition of the certificate is
3 required for graduation from a public high school but is not the only
4 requirement for graduation.

5 (3) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008, with the exception
6 of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a student who
7 meets the state (~~((standards on the reading, writing, and mathematics~~
8 ~~content areas of))~~) academic requirements of subsection (4) of this
9 section on the high school Washington assessment of student learning
10 shall earn a certificate of academic achievement.

11 (a) If a student does not successfully meet the state (~~((standards))~~)
12 academic requirement in one or more content areas required for the
13 certificate of academic achievement, then the student may retake the
14 assessment in the content area up to four times at no cost to the
15 student. If the student successfully meets the state (~~((standards))~~)
16 academic requirements on a retake of the assessment then the student
17 shall earn a certificate of academic achievement.

18 (b) Once objective alternative assessments are authorized pursuant
19 to subsection (10) of this section, a student may use the objective
20 alternative assessments to demonstrate that the student successfully
21 meets the state (~~((standards))~~) academic requirement for that content
22 area if the student has retaken the Washington assessment of student
23 learning at least once. If the student successfully meets the state
24 (~~((standards))~~) academic requirements on the objective alternative
25 assessments then the student shall earn a certificate of academic
26 achievement.

27 (4) (~~((Beginning with the graduating class of 2010, a student must~~
28 ~~meet the state standards in science in addition to the other content~~
29 ~~areas required under subsection (3) of this section on the Washington~~
30 ~~assessment of student learning or the objective alternative assessments~~
31 ~~in order to earn a certificate of academic achievement))~~) To meet the
32 state academic requirements and earn a certificate of academic
33 achievement, students must achieve the following performance on the
34 high school Washington assessment of student learning or an approved
35 alternative assessment:

36 (a) A student in the graduating class of 2008, 2009, or 2010 must
37 meet or exceed the proficient level in one out of three and meet or

1 exceed the basic level in two out of three of the reading, writing, and
2 mathematics content areas;

3 (b) A student in the graduating class of 2011, 2012, 2013, or 2014
4 must meet or exceed the proficient level in two out of four and meet or
5 exceed the basic level in two out of four of the reading, writing,
6 mathematics, and science content areas;

7 (c) A student in the graduating class of 2015, 2016, or 2017 must
8 meet or exceed the proficient level in three out of four of the
9 reading, writing, mathematics, and science content areas; and

10 (d) A student in the graduating class of 2018 or any graduating
11 class thereafter must meet or exceed the proficient level in all four
12 content areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science.

13 (5) The state board of education may not require the acquisition of
14 the certificate of academic achievement for students in home-based
15 instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW, for students enrolled in private
16 schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or for students satisfying the
17 provisions of RCW 28A.155.045.

18 (6) A student may retain and use the highest result from each
19 successfully completed content area of the high school assessment.

20 (7) (~~Beginning in 2006,~~) School districts must make available to
21 students the following options:

22 (a) To retake the Washington assessment of student learning up to
23 four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the
24 state (~~standards~~) academic requirements if the student is enrolled in
25 a public school; or

26 (b) To retake the Washington assessment of student learning up to
27 four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the
28 state (~~standards~~) academic requirements if the student is enrolled in
29 a high school completion program at a community or technical college.
30 The superintendent of public instruction and the state board for
31 community and technical colleges shall jointly identify means by which
32 students in these programs can be assessed.

33 (8) Students who achieve the (~~standard~~) state academic
34 requirement in a content area of the high school assessment but who
35 wish to improve their results shall pay for retaking the assessment,
36 using a uniform cost determined by the superintendent of public
37 instruction.

1 (9) (~~Subject to available funding, the superintendent shall pilot~~
2 ~~opportunities for retaking the high school assessment beginning in the~~
3 ~~2004-05 school year. Beginning no later than September 2006,~~)
4 Opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year shall be
5 available to each school district.

6 (10)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction
7 shall develop options for implementing objective alternative
8 assessments, which may include an appeals process, for students to
9 demonstrate achievement of the state academic (~~(standards)~~)
10 requirements. The objective alternative assessments shall be
11 comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must
12 demonstrate on the Washington assessment of student learning and be
13 objective in its determination of student achievement of the state
14 (~~(standards)~~) academic requirements. Before any objective alternative
15 assessments in addition to those authorized in RCW 28A.655.065 or (b)
16 of this subsection are used by a student to demonstrate that the
17 student has met the state (~~(standards)~~) academic requirements in a
18 content area required to obtain a certificate, the legislature shall
19 formally approve the use of any objective alternative assessments
20 through the omnibus appropriations act or by statute or concurrent
21 resolution.

22 (b) A student's score on the mathematics portion of the preliminary
23 scholastic assessment test (PSAT), the scholastic assessment test
24 (SAT), or the American college test (ACT) may be used as an objective
25 alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a
26 student has met or exceeded the mathematics (~~(standards)~~) requirements
27 for the certificate of academic achievement. The state board of
28 education shall identify the scores students must achieve on the
29 mathematics portion of the PSAT, SAT, or ACT to meet or exceed the
30 state (~~(standard)~~) academic requirement for mathematics. The state
31 board of education shall identify the first scores by December 1, 2006,
32 and thereafter may increase but not decrease the scores required for
33 students to meet or exceed the state (~~(standard)~~) academic requirement
34 for mathematics.

35 (11) By December 15, 2004, the house of representatives and senate
36 education committees shall obtain information and conclusions from
37 recognized, independent, national assessment experts regarding the

1 validity and reliability of the high school Washington assessment of
2 student learning for making individual student high school graduation
3 determinations.

4 (12) To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as
5 a foundation for high school graduation and to assure that students are
6 on track for high school graduation, each school district shall prepare
7 plans for students as provided in this subsection (12).

8 (a)(i) Student learning plans are required for eighth through
9 twelfth grade students who were not (~~successful~~) proficient on any or
10 all of the content areas of the Washington assessment for student
11 learning during the previous school year. The plan shall include the
12 courses, competencies, and other steps needed to be taken by the
13 student to meet state academic (~~standards~~) requirements and stay on
14 track for graduation. (~~This requirement shall be phased in as
15 follows:~~

16 ~~(i) Beginning no later than the 2004-05 school year ninth grade
17 students as described in this subsection (12)(a) shall have a plan.~~

18 ~~(ii) Beginning no later than the 2005-06 school year and every year
19 thereafter eighth grade students as described in this subsection
20 (12)(a) shall have a plan.~~

21 ~~(iii))~~ (ii) The parent or guardian shall be notified, preferably
22 through a parent conference, of the student's results on the Washington
23 assessment of student learning, actions the school intends to take to
24 improve the student's skills in any content area in which the student
25 was (~~unsuccessful~~) not proficient, strategies to help them improve
26 their student's skills, and the content of the student's plan.

27 ~~((iv))~~ (iii) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported
28 to the student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments
29 to the plan made as necessary.

30 (b) (~~Beginning with the 2005-06 school year and every year
31 thereafter,~~) All fifth grade students who were not (~~successful~~)
32 proficient in one or more of the content areas of the fourth grade
33 Washington assessment of student learning shall have a student learning
34 plan.

35 (i) The parent or guardian of a student described in this
36 subsection (12)(b) shall be notified, preferably through a parent
37 conference, of the student's results on the Washington assessment of
38 student learning, actions the school intends to take to improve the

1 student's skills in any content area in which the student was
2 ((~~unsuccessful~~)) not proficient, and provide strategies to help them
3 improve their student's skills.

4 (ii) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the
5 student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the
6 plan made as necessary.

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